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## News Release

## NEW YORK TURNS 75 CRIMINALS OVER TO ICE FOR DEPORTATION

Dangerous Criminals Will be Removed to Their Home Countries

BUFFALO, N.Y.--U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers (ICE) today took custody of 75 criminal aliens paroled from the New York State Department of Corrections for deportation. The aliens were flown from Buffalo to a detention facility in Louisiana where they will be staged for deportation.

The 75 criminals were convicted of murder, manslaughter, weapons possession, rape, violent assault, drug possession, and selling narcotics. The New York Parole Board granted the 75 Conditional Parole for Deportation Only, and ICE's Buffalo Office of Detention and Removal worked with the state to transfer custody to the Buffalo Federal Detention Facility.

ICE officers work daily with New York State Department of Corrections officials to identify inmates who can be deported from the country based on their criminal convictions.

The aliens are from the Dominican Republic, Columbia and Mexico. Today's operation was conducted with the support of the Justice Prisoner Alien Transport System (JPATS), which is operated by the United States Marshals Service.

Buffalo Field Office Director William Cleary noted that ICE works closely with the state to remove criminals back to their home countries. "These criminals represent the worst of the worst. Once deported they will no longer be able to victimize the people of New York State with violent crimes," Cleary said.

Chauncey G. Parker, New York State Director of Criminal Justice, said, "This is another great example of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies working together to keep our communities safe."

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Buffalo office of Detention and Removal has deported 264 criminal aliens from New York State prisons so far in fiscal 2005. The total number of aliens removed by the Buffalo office is 1,007.

Deporting criminal aliens is a priority of ICE. In fiscal 2004 ICE removed a total of 160,000 foreign nationals, more than half of them criminals. So far this fiscal year 76,000 aliens have been removed, of which 45,200 were criminals.

## # ICE #

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.